

KENTUCKY IRISH AMERICAN.

Devoted to the Moral and Social Advancement of all Irish Americans.

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CHRISTMAS GREETING.

The Kentucky Irish American desires to extend the felicitations of the season to its friends and subscribers, to wish all a very merry Christmas with peace, health and prosperity. On the whole, it has not been a bad year. True enough, we have suffered changes of administration in the State and city and these changes were not altogether to our liking. We have a firm belief that these things will right themselves and that an all-wise God permitted them to happen for the best.

The country has been prosperous, the harvest bounteous and there has been plenty of work until the last thirty days. Even now there is work for every man, woman and child in the United States, although the recent stringency in the money market caused a cessation of activity in manufacturing and railroad circles. Now money is pouring into the country, into the bank, and confidence is being rapidly restored. It is hoped that by January 1 the commercial and industrial lines will have resumed their normal condition. A year from now the panic of 1907 will be but a memory and we will laugh and joke about the idle fears we entertained a year before.

Let us give thanks for the blessings we have enjoyed during the past year and on Christmas morning pour out our heart's devotion to the Giver of All Good for His tenderness and mercy and pray for a continuance of His blessings.

Christmas, with its attendant joys, ought to mean to us something more than an exchange of gifts. True enough, we ought to try to make others happy, but it is our chief duty to make our peace with our Divine Redeemer at this holy season of the year.

ABOUT CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

This is the season of the year when people are casting about for suitable Christmas gifts for relatives and friends. Loving mothers and thoughtful fathers desire to make their children happy. The affectionate husband wants to give the wife of his bosom something that she will appreciate. In turn the careworn wife desires to give her husband and natural protector something that will be useful and comfortable. The beaux are hunting for jewels and gew-gaws for their respective belles and the young ladies are equally anxious to please the swains that have been paying them attention. Even employers are anxious to please their employees and merchants seek to please their customers, both wholesale and retail.

This desire to make others happy would indicate that the world is improving, because the number of Christmas gifts is increasing each year and the worth of many of the gifts is also increasing. Nor is the gift-giving confined to Christian creeds alone. We find many of our Hebrew brethren generous in their Christmas gifts to employees and Christian friends.

Our Divine Redeemer was the first Christmas gift. He gave Himself to redeem mankind from the fate they had inherited as the result of the fall of Adam and Eve. None could make a greater sacrifice for those he loved than that made by Our Saviour. It was His condescension that millions are unconsciously imitating in these times more than 1900 years after the Saviour's birth. Yet there are countless thousands of people in the United States who are unable to say how and when the first Christmas gift was made.

There is no greater lesson in education than this act of self-abnegation. We are not giving with the expectation of getting something in return. We give to make others happy. The small boy is as happy with his drum or the little mother-girl with her doll as much pleased in their way as the debutante with her diamond ring or the more mature matron with the sealskin coat. The workman who receives a turkey from his employer will certainly carry pleasant memories for months to come and will be more than ever watchful of his employer's interests.

Some of us may say we have nothing to give this year. Give a kindly word to friends and the kiss of affection to your family. Remember that you are only a weak mortal and that it is your duty to follow in the footsteps of the Divine Master. Friends worth having will appreciate your best efforts, no matter how feeble. If they fail to appreciate what you do they are not entitled to claims on your friendship. Above all, cut your pace to the size of your purse. Do not go beyond your means.

A word to the receiver of gifts

may not be amiss. Do not grumble at what you receive. It may not be what you want, but make the best of it. Consider the spirit of the giver and not the nature of the gift. Remember that somebody has tried to make you happy. It is your duty to try to appear happy for that other person's sake.

WHAT DEMOCRATIC MEANS.

From day to day we see and hear that the Democratic party is divided and that it will be impossible to elect a Democratic President for many years to come. The party is divided only on local issues. The majority of its members are still bound together by the fundamental principles that made it the party of Jefferson and Jackson.

The Democrats stand for the preservation of constitutional liberty wherever our flag permanently floats, opposition to trusts and other dangerous monopolies which prevent or oppose legitimate competition and operate to the detriment of the people. Democracy insists upon State rights under the guarantee of the constitution, public taxation for public purposes only, the abolition of tariff upon articles controlled by trusts, the election of United States Senators by the people of the various States, the maintenance of the personal liberty of the citizen and an honest and economical administration of public affairs.

This platform ought to be broad enough for all Americans to stand upon, but there are still men who believe in a high protective tariff, in subsidizing the merchant marine and otherwise overtaxing a patient people. If the Democratic leaders will cease to squabble over local issues it will not be long before the party of the people will be returned to power.

VIGOROUS MAN NECESSARY.

The Louisville Times, a few days ago, informed its readers that former United States Senator Lindsay "has a lightning rod up" in the Senatorial race. The Times correspondent added that Senator Lindsay had not made a move in the race and that he would not until the time was "ripe."

It is not the purpose of the Kentucky Irish American to disparage the worth of Senator Lindsay as a "has been" statesman, but it is about time for Kentucky to elect a younger and more active man. Too long has Kentucky been relegated to the background in the political field. This is an era of progress. Some fellow with a queer idea of wit has evidently undertaken to play a practical joke on Hon. William Lindsay.

Every Catholic father and mother has an additional incentive to subscribe for Catholic newspapers when they see the daily press of the country flooded with nasty stories of marital infidelity, if not infidelity, of tragedies like the Bradley-Brown and the Shaw-White affairs. Is there a Catholic parent or guardian in America who cares to have his children or wards poisoned by this horrible stuff? It is worse than poisoning the body; it is poisoning the soul. Taboo the daily and sensational press. Subscribe for one or more good Catholic weekly papers and thus hasten the time when a Catholic daily, free from sensationalism, will be published in every diocese if not in every city.

Local druggists desire to be exempted from the proposed increase of license for the sale of liquor. Whisky purchased in a drug store is as mean as any one can buy in a saloon. Sometimes it is worse. If the proposition of the druggists would hold good Louisville would soon have fewer saloons and many more drug stores. If people want to sell whisky they ought to pay for the privilege, but do not fix a \$500 license for the saloon man and \$150 for the druggist. Make both pay the same price.

If any of our Catholic women find time hanging heavily on their hands and need legitimate diversion, they could do a meritorious work by visiting the institutions conducted by the Little Sisters of the Poor, the two houses of the Good Shepherd, the two Catholic orphan asylums and the various Catholic hospitals.

LOVED HIS DOGS.

C. C. Miller, a wealthy but eccentric millionaire of Pittsburg, who was a great admirer of dogs in his life time, died recently. In disposing of his immense estate he specified that a full lot shall be purchased in a cemetery at Long Branch where the remains of his two pet dogs "Twinkle" and "Pat" shall be interred when they shall have died.

IRISH BELLS

That Bring Pleasant Mental Messages to Exiled Children.

Long before wireless telegraphy was dreamed of there was a wireless telegraphy between Ireland and her exiled children. In the United States, in Canada, in Mexico, in Australia, in South America and in South Africa, and in fact in every land on the face of the earth, were Irish men and women who on Christmas morning, as they plodded their way to early mass, heard the bells of their native land. The Irish exile hears not alone, "Glory to God on high and peace on earth to men of good will," but he hears the chiming of his native parish.

From the ancient city of Armagh he hears the bell of the National Cathedral of St. Patrick. Amid the hills of Donegal he listens to the historic chiming of St. Ennion's at Letterkenny. Over the ramparts and walls of Derry comes a sweet message from St. Eugene's Cathedral. Across the green fields of Monaghan are heard the peal of bells from the Cathedral of St. McCartan. Down the bay of Dublin the breezes bear the deep, rich tones of the chiming of old St. Patrick's, accompanied by the music of a hundred bells from the Irish metropolises. The bells of St. John's in Longford and St. Mary's in Kilkenny proclaim the Christmas tidings across the midland plains. Along the beautiful river Lee the world famous Shandon bells are softly playing the Christmas hymn. Near by the bells of St. Peter's in Cork are telling joyful news to the southern rebel city. From above the heights of Queenstown Harbor the bells of St. Coleman's magnificent new Cathedral are sending messages far out on the western sea to Ireland's exiled sons and daughters. Every man and woman hears his own bell, in memory only, but he hears it, and it brings back pleasant recollections of days now long gone by.

QUEER QUESTION.

Able Answered By Able Editor and Humane Worker.

George T. Angell, editor of Our Dumb Animals, an esteemed contemporary published at Boston in the interest of the American Humane Education Society, was recently asked by a correspondent: "Do Catholics help you?" Mr. Angell replied as follows:

"We have in this morning's mail an application for 200 copies of Our Dumb Animals for a Catholic Sunday-school. Two or three days ago we had an application from a professor in the great Catholic University at Washington, D. C., for information to aid him in preparing an account of our humane work. About a month since a Catholic lady died in Boston leaving in her will to us for our humane work \$10,000. Some time since a great Catholic school sent us its kind wishes and desired us to believe that every child in that school was one of our particular friends. John Boyle O'Reilly aided us in many times, and the last time we saw him took down from the shelf over his table our Autobiographical Sketches, saying he always kept them there because he liked to read them. Archbishop Williams was one of our best friends and many of our Catholic clergy have been of great assistance to us in various ways. We could say a great many more things on this subject if they were necessary to show how Catholics have aided us. No half dozen clergymen in Chicago helped us so much in organizing the Illinois Humane Society as did the Catholic Bishop."

This is not surprising, since the Catholic church teaches its members to abhor cruelty of every description. From their tiny infancy Catholic children are taught to be kind to dumb animals.

At the November meetings of the American Humane Education Society and the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals the Most Rev. William O'Connell, Archbishop of Boston, was elected First Vice President of both societies, succeeding the late Archbishop Williams.

RICH FIREMAN.

Captain Michael Driscoll Gives Credit to His Wife.

Michael Driscoll, of Chicago, is the richest fireman in the United States and very probably in the world. Capt. Driscoll is Chief of the Fourteenth battalion of the Chicago fire department. His income from his property and his salary net him \$10,000 a year and his money is invested in real estate that is constantly increasing in value. He expects that his holdings will double their value within the next ten years.

Twenty-one years ago Driscoll was a day laborer and earned \$9 a week. In 1886 he was made a substitute fireman and four years later was made Lieutenant of his company. In 1896 he was made Chief of his battalion, a position he still holds. None of his money has been made by graft or corrupt politics. On the contrary, everything he has made by hard work, frugality and knowing how to take advantage of a bargain.

For his success Capt. Driscoll takes no credit to himself, but says his wife is responsible for the comfortable fortune he is now master of. He is less than sixty years of age and has no intention of retiring from the city's service for years to come.

With the first money that he saved after entering the fire department Capt. Driscoll bought a lot near Douglas Park. He paid \$600 for it and next morning sold it for \$1,200. That was fifteen years ago. After that the rest seemed easy and his real holdings grew piece by piece and constantly enhanced in value because he always bought near commercial centers.

This wealthy fireman is still as good an Irishman and as good a Catholic as he was when he entered the department twenty-one years ago.

WHEN DENNIS COMES HOME TO HIS TAY.

They may talk of their horses an' houses,
The pictures that hang on the wall,
The fine sparklin' rings on their fingers,
The servants that come at their call,
The swish of their silks an' their satins,
Roast beef an' plum puddin' each day—
But I envy no woman her riches
When Dennis comes home to his tay!

To be sure when he goes in the mornin',
With the children to clean an' to comb,
An' the three little rooms to make decent
In the bit of a place here at home,
An' mendin' an' washin' an' makin'—
The stove like a cat's eye is shinin',
There isn't much time to be idle
Until he comes home to his tay.

But then we're as nice an' as tidy
As if we had money galore!
The stove like a cat's eye is shinin',
You can eat your three meals on the floor,
The bit of a plant in the window
Is as fresh as a mornin' in May,
An' the children go wily with their nonsense
When Dennis comes home to his tay.

The kettle is singin' its welcome,
There's a good bit of beef in the pot,
The tablecloth is clean—for I washed it—
The dish of potatoes is hot;
We're healthy, an' happy an' hearty,
So thank God for his blessin', I say!

For 'tis we that have cause to be thankful
When Dennis comes home to his tay.
For then with his pipe in the corner,
He can sit down as well as the priest,
With his bit of man's gossip to give me,
An' I have my minute to rest
An' to tell him the news of the neighbors,
While the children go on with their play.

Oh! I envy no woman her riches
When Dennis comes home to his tay!

—Mary Elizabeth Blake.

GERMAN CATHOLICS

Put Good Men in Charge Of Their Splendid Asylum.

St. Joseph's Union, the organization of German Catholics which has charge of St. Joseph's Orphan Asylum, held its general meeting in St. Boniface's Hall, Jackson and Green streets, last Sunday afternoon. The principal business was the election of officers for the coming year and it resulted as follows:

President—John Kupper.
Vice President—Joseph Hubbuck.
Recording Secretary—William M. Black.

Treasurer—Henry Michael.
Previous to the general meeting subordinate meetings were held in each of the German Catholic parishes in the city and in every instance wise men were placed in charge of the asylum's affairs.
The new general officers will be installed on the afternoon of the second Sunday in January. At the same time the retiring officers will read their annual reports showing what has been done during the year. The institution is in a splendid condition and there is a splendid balance in the treasury, largely due to the material ability of the President Kupper, who is now serving his third term.

RECENT DEATHS.

The funeral of Mrs. Mary Kennedy, who died at her residence, 224 Twelfth street, on Friday, December 19, took place from St. Patrick's church Sunday afternoon. The deceased was the widow of Patrick Kennedy and was highly respected in the community in which she lived.

After a lingering illness of lung trouble Joseph Stout, twenty-one years of age and the son of Mrs. McAuley Stout, 2418 Twenty-fourth street, passed peacefully away Saturday morning, fortified by the sacraments of his religion. The funeral took place Monday from St. Cecilia's church with a solemn mass of requiem.

The funeral of Mrs. Mary Mitchell, widow of Patrick Mitchell, took place from her home, 1567 Bank street, at 8:30 o'clock Tuesday morning and from St. Patrick's church half an hour later. Mrs. Mitchell was sixty-five years old and death resulted from a complication of diseases. Four children survive her, Patrick Thomas, Michael and Miss Mary Mitchell.

Mrs. Sarah Dugan, one of the oldest and most beloved ladies of the East End, died at her home, 1501 Hull street, Saturday afternoon of last week. She was seventy years of age and had spent the greater part of her life in Louisville. She is survived by her husband, James Dugan, a veteran employee of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company, and several grown children. The funeral took place from St. Joseph's church, of which she was a devout member, Tuesday morning.

William K. Cronin, one of the most popular locomotive firemen on the L. & N. system, succumbed to the nervous shock which followed an operation for appendicitis at Sts. Mary and Elizabeth Hospital last Sunday. The young man was only twenty-two years old and was the son of Alex. Cronin, for many years a locomotive passenger engineer on the L. & N. He is survived by his parents and two brothers and four sisters. They are Alex. M. Cronin, Jr., Arthur Cronin and Misses Bessie, Alice and Anna Cronin, of Louisville and Mrs. L. M. Kline of Texas. The funeral took place from the family residence, 210 West Ormsby avenue, at 8:30 o'clock Tuesday, and half an hour later from St. Louis Bertrand's church.

Tins should be washed in clean, hot soapy water and rubbed freely with mineral soap, which will keep them as bright as new.

NOTED BASILICA.

Cathedral of St. John Lateran is Mother of All Churches.

What is the Church of St. John Lateran? That is a question often heard even among Catholics. In brief it is the mother and mistress, as it were, of all churches in the world and is the Cathedral of the Pope. It was founded by the Emperor Constantine in the very early ages of Christianity and St. John the Apostle is its patron. It takes the name Lateran from the place where it was built.

Centuries after it was built, or in 1308, it was almost entirely destroyed by fire, but was afterward restored and is one of the foremost places of interest in that very interesting city of Rome. No pilgrim to the Eternal City feels satisfied unless he has paid at least one visit to the basilica of St. John Lateran.

Entrance to this magnificent relic of bygone centuries is gained through five doors. The one in the center is made of bronze and originally belonged to the Church of St. Hadrian at the Roman Forum. Over this door is the loggia or gallery from which until 1870 the various Popes were accustomed to give their blessings to the people upon their elevation to the chair of Peter.

Among the treasures of St. John Lateran are the table upon which Our Lord ate his last supper and instituted the Blessed Sacrament. Another treasure is a wooden altar upon which St. Peter, the first Pope, celebrated mass. Here, too, are to be found the heads of Sts. Peter and Paul, a part of the purple garment worn by Our Savior when the Jews mocked him and hailed him as King.

Adjoining the basilica is the palace of the Popes from which Pius IX. was driven by Garibaldi and his soldiers in 1870. This is particularly dear to Irish and Irish-Americans, since many of their bravest sons fell there in defending the temporal powers of the Pontiff.

HISTORICAL FACTS.

How Washington Became the Seat of Government Years Ago.

Unless we are school children we are apt to forget from time to time some of the most important events in American history. For instance how few there are who remember that the seat of the National Government was transferred to Washington, D. C., 107 years ago, or that 119 years ago the Maryland Legislature ceded to the National Government a tract of land ten miles square for the purpose of giving the nation a site for its capital? The bill thus passed was then signed by James E. Howard, fifth Governor of Maryland, and immediately became a law.

However other States wanted the capital within their territory. Pennsylvania wanted it on the Susquehanna, Virginia considered the Potomac an excellent site, and New York desired it on the Hudson. Several of these States offered the Government tracts of land, but Maryland's offer was the most liberal.

President Washington on July 16, 1790, signed the bill establishing the seat of government on the banks of the Potomac and accepting the cession of land made by Maryland. Virginia also ceded a tract ten miles square, but this was ceded back by the United States in July, 1846. Washington did not live to see the Government established in its new home.

Some historians tell you that the new capital was built in a wilderness, but statistics show that in those days Prince George county, Maryland, had a population of 21,000. This adjoined the District of Columbia on the east. On the west was Montgomery county with a population of 329,000. Not such a wilderness after all, was it?

NEW COUNCIL.

The members of Louisville Council, Knights of Columbus, are preparing to go in large numbers to Bardstown Sunday, December 29, to attend the institution of a new council there. The three degrees will be conferred by Louisville Council, assisted by District Deputy John T. Donovan, of Paducah. The candidates, together with the visiting and local Knights, will assemble at St. Joseph's church for high mass at 10 o'clock. Rev. Father Charles O'Connell will officiate and the visiting Knights will be shown the treasures of Kentucky's historic church. After mass a short time will be allowed for luncheon and at 1:30 o'clock sharp the initiation will begin. The degree work will occupy the entire afternoon and in the evening all will sit down to a banquet.

Louisville Council has made arrangements for a special train to convey its members to Bardstown Sunday morning. It will leave Union Station, Tenth and Broadway, at 8 o'clock sharp. Quite a number of Bardstown's most representative Catholics belong to Louisville Council, but are anxious to have a council nearer home, so that they can be more regular in attendance. It is expected that at least 250 Louisville Knights will make the trip.

NOTED LECTURER HERE.

"Christ, Our Hope," will be the subject of a free lecture to be given at St. Paul's church, Jackson and Kentucky streets, at 8 o'clock tomorrow evening, by the Rev. Father Thomas Verner Moore, C. S. P., of the University of California. Father Moore is Chaplain of the Newman Club at the university and is one of the noted preachers of the Pacific coast. Rev. Father York, pastor of St. Paul's church, assures his friends that there is a treat in store for all who attend.

FLANAGAN RESIGNS.

Ray Flanagan, one of the most popular men about the Court House and for a number of years Quarterly Clerk, has resigned his position, and early in the new year will engage in business for himself. He has a host of friends who will be glad to see him succeed.

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